

**CONFIDENTIAL**

To: Office of Training

From:

Subject: Evaluation of USSR Area Program

I feel that, in general, the USSR Area Program was beneficial to me and my fellow workers and that it will contribute <sup>to</sup> the effectiveness of our work. The instruction was good and the subject matter was relevant to our normal work problems. Much of the material was necessarily a repetition of past studies to some of us but, even in these cases, it was a helpful refresher.

It is my opinion, that in view of the work we do and because of the background of the students in the seminar, the fields of political science and economics should be stressed at the expense of history. The latter field should be covered generally. At the same time, I believe that the course in economics should be less general and touch more on the problems encountered in this branch. An emphasis on student participation would help here.

To cause less disruption in our normal work routine, I think 8 hours a week, given in two-4hour morning periods, would be best. Outside reading or preparation of papers should not be encouraged except when the student is very unfamiliar with material involved and then outside work should be assigned only on a voluntary basis.

Attendance should be compulsory as student specialists should be able to contribute to the discussion.

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